REMARKS

Early and favorable consideration of claims 1-17 is earnestly solicited.

CUSTOMER NO. 31013

[Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/943,650] 177079-00162WS

Dated: July 8, 2003

By:

William J. Spatz Reg. No. 30,108

KRAMER LEVIN NAFTALIS & FRANKEL LLP

919 Third Avenue

New York, New York 10022

(212) 715-9257(telephone)

(212) 715-8437 (facsimile)